

Correct Methodology of Da'wah & Its Impact on Western Society

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Abstract

The term da'wah' (to communicate) has its origin in the Qur'an 'Da'wah is mentioned about one hundred and seventy two time in the Qur'an. Among its real meaning the dimensions there are three aspects. Like these are: enjoining good (Ma'ruf معروف) and forbidding indecency (Munkar منكر), ethical upliftment of family and self-improvement. For Muslims 'da'wah is as a religious duty. This paper covers: Da'wah: Historical overview; Da'wah as the experience of some individuals; The needs of Da'wah world wide; The challenges for Da'wah workers and also, the literal meaning of word" Da'wah" Da'wah in the Historical context Da'wah in the modern understanding. Da'wah in foreign lands. Social welfare duties in Islam and Islam's global reach.

Muslims have regarded da'wah as a religious duty It is a task for believers of Tauheed توحيد . It is the duty of

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every Muslim in the world. The injunctions of the Qur'an are very clear in this respect "and who is letter in speech than who calls (the people) unto his lard and does good deeds and declares, Lo! I am of those who surrender unto Him?"

In general application term da'wah is commonly used in the study of Islam. It is a means and mission to promote Islam. Propagation in the favor of Islam is the religious duty of every Muslim. This is the course of activity to involve him self, for the refinement of soul and body. In the history of world religions the prophecy of Muhammad (ﷺ) a unique call of Divine which is life of the Saul that is the rational power of belief, Allah says:

﴿كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَلَوْ آمَنَ أَهْلُ الْكِتَابِ لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُمْ مِّنْهُمْ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ﴾

"You are the best community that has been raised up for man kind. You enjoin right conduct and forbid indency"¹

دعوة "Da'wah" The Literal Meaning Of Word

The noun "Da wah" دعوة is derived from the verb daa-yadu" Da'Wah" دعا يدعو دعوة means to desire "to require" and to request" second its meaning "to call" "to summon" and "to invite, third its meaning "to pray" and to Call to God" "Pray to Allah" again Finally it means "to

¹ - Al-Imran (3:110)

draw" As a noun it means, in turn, "a call" or "invitation". In summary we can say that the meaning of "Da'Wah دعوة" the primary meaning is, however still, based on the verb "to call" to Pray" and "to Invite". Now Da,Wah دعوة , to desire about the end of life and the purpose of life "require" As the basic need for the existence of life, "to Call" in the favor of Allah to save himself and pray for the safety of humanity in the world of Muslims, believe in Tauheed توحيد that is compulsory for everybody to submit himself in the favor of Allah and get forgiveness from sins.

The word "Da'Wah دعوة " in the Qur'an is in the form: Da'a دعا (perfect) "yadu يدعو (imperfect), Importance of Da'wah دعوة " has to explain as responsibility as Allah says"

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا ادْخُلُوا فِي السِّلْمِ كَآفَّةً وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ﴾

"O you who believe! Enter in to Islam whole heartedly and follow not the footsteps of satin, verily he is your open enemy ¹.

According to the sunnah سنة , Allah and his Messenger are both callers. As such "da'wah: in this context is a call or invitation to follow the teaching of the prophet (PBUH ﷺ).

As the last messenger of Allah, the prophet (PHUH ﷺ) has his own form of call. The prophet has clearly defined Da'wah دعوة as Islamic calling and inviting people to worship Allah" verily I Invite you with the propagation of Islam" In order to fulfill his duty, the prophet (PBUH

¹ - Al-Baqarah (2:208)

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ﷺ) has asked his companions to call to the deen of Allah together with the prophet of Islam's message for believers is as follow.

"The worst people are those who have double, face when they talk to a person they say what he likes: and when they talk to another person they talk what they like. On the day of resurrection such persons will have two reins of fire in their mouths and their tongues will be of such length that they would drag them and trample them under their feet.¹

Da'wah In The Historical Context

It is mainly concerned as to how Muslims understand the meaning of "da'wah" as stated in the Qur'an and the sunnah. In this section we shall discuss and explain the meaning of "da'wah" practiced in the History of Islam. We will discuss how Muslims applied and practiced in their life. It has not only been seen as the task of certain particular individuals or groups of Muslims have regarded da'wah as a religious duty or task. The injunctions of the Qur'an are very clear in this respect as "and who is better in speech, which call (the people) unto his Lord and does good deeds and declares Lo! I am of those who surrender UN to him?"²

Qur'an text:

﴿وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ قَوْلًا مِّمَّنْ دَعَا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا وَقَالَ إِنَّنِي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ﴾

¹- Bukhari, Muslim

²-Al-Fussilat (41:33)

For example it is stated that the caliph Umar Bin Abdul Aziz was marked with very extensive conversion. He is said, on one occasion, it has given a Christian military officer a sum of 1000 diner to induce him to accept Islam. He also instructed to the Governors of the provinces to invite the "Dhimmis to Islam"¹ this account illustrates the attitude of pious Muslims Towards their duty of propagating Islam. The Muslims are quite different and distinct from the other peoples as regards the factors which caused their rise and fall complete adoption of Islam and strict adherence to the practice of Holy prophet (PBUH ﷺ) will bring them success in every field of life and will make them to True over the other community. Allah says

"And you must triumph if you are (indeed) believers"² preaching to Islam as a religious duty this kind of understanding and practice was similar as the sunnah of the prophet (PBUH ﷺ). After gaining political power in Medina the Holy prophet (PBUH) approached the Jew and Christian Communities, sent a letters to other leaders out side medina to embrace Islam and even issued a summon or da'wah to enemies of Islam either to convert or to submit to the "Jiziah جزية" (tax) before attacking them The Holy prophet says "the invitation to Islam is essential before declaring war"³

There is no kind of military approach by itself cannot be applied to force enemy of Islam for the conversion of

¹-The preaching of Islam T.W Arnald P.83 Sh Muhammad Ashraf 1979

²- Al-Imran (3:139)

³- IBN Hambal, Musnad Al-Imam Ahmad Ibn Hambol Cairo vol: 2.

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their religion. The Muslim political authorities can set up institutions with this effort for the promotion of Islamic power to embrace Islam. There may be The form of Mosque as a religious agency, the Madarassah as the Educational institution, a legislative system and economic structure may influence non Muslims to embrace Islam therefore it is an important subject for study for the information source Islamic values throughout the history of Islam could indirectly attract people to Islam.

In the favor of the society and to make strength Islam on the social level, the sense of da'wah was performed by every body, this was probably the most important way of performing "da'wah" in Islam without any controversy, they offered Islam to people by showing the image of successful merchants and holy saints.

In the light of above examples da'wah has been understood in the sense of invitation and calling to religion of Islam who ever this term has also been applied in other senses such as in the politico religious context. This again may suggest that Islam and politics are undivided Da'wah is used in a sense to call to both religion and politics. The Holy Qur'an further proclaims

"Those who, if we give them power in the land, establish worship (salat) and pay the poor due (Zakat) and enjoin kindness and forbid inequity and Allah is the sequel of events"¹

Quran Text:

﴿الَّذِينَ إِنْ مَكَّنَّاهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ وَأَمَرُوا بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَنَهَوْا عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَلِلَّهِ عَاقِبَةُ الْأُمُورِ﴾

¹-Al-Hajj (22:41)

Da'wah In The Modern Understanding

The term da'wah, particularly "da'wah islamiyyah" **دعوة إسلامية** was practically used when the prophet (PBUH ﷺ) began to start his duty as the prophet of Islam. Islam is the religion. Its guidance based on Qur'an and sunnah **سنة**. The original source to understand Da'wah is Qur'an and sunnah and its application in the modern text and context many Muslim scholars attempt to discuss as the guide line of Muslim civilization. The term refers to calling or inviting to Allah as Allah says.

﴿ قُلْ هَذِهِ سَبِيلِي أَدْعُو إِلَى اللَّهِ عَلَى بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي
وَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ ﴾

"This is my way, I call on Allah with sure knowledge I and whoso ever follows me ¹.

What is meant by the call to Allah, call to Allah is the call to his religion, and that is Islam Allah says:

﴿ إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ ﴾

Indeed religion with Allah is Islam"².

The object of Islam is da'wah, and also Islam is the object of da'wah, and its reality and that is in fact the fundamental power or root of da'wah is the source of energy for belief in unity of God. That is the function of da'wah and reality as proof a God's fear. Allah says.

"Allah has promised to those of you who believe and do good (that He will)_ make them rulers in the earth as he made rulers before them, and that He will established for them their religion which He has chosen for them and

¹-Yousuf (12:108)

² -Al'Imran (3:19)

that He will after their fear, give them security in exchange”¹

Social Welfare Duties In Islam

The missionary concept of “da’wah” is most important as a welfare system, to create humanity among people. However this is difficult to prove as a record because every body as a Muslim do it to get favor of Allah. Christian mission as a professional body which was institutionally characterized by long planning, skillful exploitation of media, The establishment of study centers and earnest, urgent preaching and efforts as persuasion. Infect the method of da’wah has also transformed including social welfare activities such as health care and educational welfare is a part of a Da’wah. Da’wah once applied primarily to the conversion of non Muslims Now a days it has been transferred to create the education of Muslims and more importantly and recently, for social welfare activities for Muslims. Some Muslim scholars insisted the objective of da’wah is to gain political power with in society. The da’wah is the gain political for the reconstruction of society on the Islamic basis.

In order to devise a viable strategy to fight evil in all its forms. We must address our scales to reform in thought and behavior of mankind so as to restore balance and harmony in their lives at all levels. Cool temperament and good moral character are the need of the Islamic society Allah says:-

﴿وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي

¹ - An-NUR (24:55)

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ارْتَضَى لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ مِّنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿٥٧﴾

"O messenger make known that which has been revealed un to them from the Lord for if they do not, they will not have conveyed his message. Allah will protect them from mankind.

Lo! Allah guiedeth not the disbelieving folk"¹ the preacher of Islam should be hold and straight forward and repose full trust in Allah. He need not fear of the people an other important factor which a preacher should not lose sight of his own duty to follow the sunnah of the prophet He must not suffer from inferiority complex which may present him from preaching that which is right preaching is better than other welfare and social training Preaching method is important action like Jihad but it is not enough the Holy prophet says:

"What is jihad in the path of Allah? "He who wages Jihad for the elevation of the law of Allah has waged Jihad in the path of Allah"²

Da'wah In Foreign Lands

Foreign lands "as a place both of experimentation and affirmation of the Traditional values" Muslims feel Islam has much to offer in the foreign lands in the world to change the poor values of the society. American and Europe and all over the non Muslim world living experience, whether it be liberation from addiction a recapturing of fundamentals maral values or a deeper appreciation of communal responsibilities.

¹-Al-Ma'Idah (5:67)

²- Bukhari

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For the dedicated Muslim families in United States pose perpetual challenges hijab حجاب wearing ladies are called "Rag head " in schools and public places even have their scarf rapped from their head. A young son is given the role of "terrorist" everyone is different than other by behavior in the society.

The most significant way in which America is affecting Islam is in Purifying it. In worshipping together the couple's experience reflects a fast growing fact of American life that remain little understand the united States, Muslim population has risen in thirty years about five million to six million in a lost of Muslim organizations they are searching for the essence of Islam and are duply involved in determining the nature and authenticity of an indigenous American Islam Jane smith says as a professor of Islamic Studies at Hartford seminary Coordinator of center for study of Islam and Christian Muslim relations. In her book "Islam in America" (Columbia University Press) smith says "A number of Muslim believe that " This American Context provides the opportunity for fresh thinking without the sense that it may be objectionable to somebody "one of the main issue is that of authority. Who has the right to decide what is the "good" or "true" Islamic way. There are non practicing Muslims and there are groups that call themselves Muslims although most Muslims says that they do not follow a legitimate form of Islam. In the discussable position would we as a Muslim can do Allah says.

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا هَلْ أَدُلُّكُمْ عَلَىٰ تِجَارَةٍ تُنْجِيكُمْ مِّنْ عَذَابِ
الْأَلِيمِ (10) تَزُومُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَتُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ
بِأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنفُسِكُمْ ذَلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ إِن كُنتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ﴾

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"O you who believe! Shall I show you a commerce that will save you from a painful doom"? We should believe in Allah and his messenger and should strive for the cause of Allah with your wealth and lives that is better for you, if you did but know"¹.

Islam's Global Reach

Islamic system of equality it has something to teach the society Muslims are in proud about Islam's global reach Muslims put a high priority to Islam as a system of life. There are increasing efforts not only at communication but at moral. Islam is making a very remarkable progress in the world the campaign of calumny being vigorously pursued by the people belong to other religions, indeed all praises as a system of peace.

A recent investigation conducted by the new Era National Islamic propagation Centre (Research Department) Across the country and also in the moderate world. As a sporting moral and practice of life in the society.

Islam is a religion that does not recognize Mythology and superstitions In deed it is very simple and rational religion that puts great emphasis on knowledge and learning. God had made learning the for most obliging of human kind and because of this fundamental principle the Islamic civilization has been fountained the countries.

¹- As-Saff (61:10.11)